

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

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TAGS: MILI IT

SUBJ: POSSIBLE MEDICAL TREATMENT AT U.S. MILITARY MEDICAL
FACILITY FOR ITALIAN AIR FORCE CAPTAIN ALESSANDRO CAMPANELLI

1. ITALIAN AIR FORCE CAPTAIN ALESSANDRO CAMPANELLI VISITED
THE OFFICE OF THE AIR ATTACHE ON FEBRUARY 7 TO INQUIRE ABOUT
POSSIBLE TREATMENT IN THE U.S. FOR A DISEASE FROM WHICH HE
HAS SUFFERED SINCE 1975. HIS AILMENT HAD BEEN DIAGNOSED AS
RECURRENT STAPHYLOCOCCIC SEPSIS. CAMPANELLI SAID HE HAD
EXHAUSTED ALL POSSIBLE SOURCES OF TREATMENT IN ITALY AND
ASSERTED HE UNDERSTOOD THAT HIS ILLNESS HAD BEEN SUCCESS-
FULLY TREATED IN THE UNITED STATES IN THE CASE OF PATIENTS
RETURNING FROM SOUTH EAST ASIA. THE AIR ATTACHE'S OFFICE
AGREED TO INQUIRE AS TO THE EXISTENCE OF EXPERTISE IN THE
UNITED STATES IN THE TREATMENT OF THE ILLNESS. CAMPANELLI
WAS PROVIDED WITH THE NAMES OF DR. GEORGE J. GALLASSO AT NIH'S
INFECTIOUS DISEASE BRANCH AND MAJOR GREMILLION, USAF MEDICAL
CENTER LACKLAND AFB AS POSSIBLE SOURCES OF ADVICE.

2. MEANWHILE CAPTAIN CAMPANELLI HAS BEEN ASSIGNED ON TDY,
THAT IS, NOT ACCREDITED, TO THE OFFICE OF THE MILITARY
ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON IN THE APPARENT EXPECTATION THAT
TREATMENT AT A U.S. MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITY CAN BE ARRANGED.

3. ALTHOUGH THIS CASE HAS BEEN HANDLED IN A PARTICULARLY
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PAGE 02 ROME 07866 290837Z

CONFUSED MANNER, THIS EMBASSY BELIEVES IT TO BE MERITORIOUS.
THE CHIEF OF MISSION ENDORSES THE REQUEST OF CAPTAIN CAMPANELLI
FOR TREATMENT AT A U.S. MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITY AS BEING
IN THE U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST. CAPTAIN CAMPANELLI'S CASE
IS WELL KNOWN WITHIN THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE. GRANTING ACCESS
TO TREATMENT AT A U.S. MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITY TO CAPTAIN
CAMPANELLI WILL SERVE TO HELP STRENGTHEN RELATIONS BETWEEN

THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE AND THE U.S. MILITARY SERVICES AT A TIME
WHEN IMPORTANT U.S. AND NATO PROJECTS PLANNED IN AND WITH
ITALY REQUIRE THE CONCURRENCE OF THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE.

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CAPTAIN CAMPANELLI'S CASE CAN
BE OBTAINED FROM HIM DIRECTLY OR FROM GENERAL BUTELLI, DEFENSE
ATTACHE AT THE ITALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.GARDNER

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